

Thus, new claims 55-103 are clear and definite and persons of ordinary skill would have no difficulty in determining whether a particular method having particular steps is within the scope of the claims. Accordingly, the claims are definite within the meaning of §112. *In re Mercier*, 185 U.S.P.Q. 774 (C.C.P.A. 1975) (claims sufficiently define an invention so long as one skilled in the art can determine what subject matter is or is not within the scope of the claims). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

#### IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. An early notice of the same is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (215) 564-8906 if there are any questions regarding Applicants' claimed invention. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****In the Specification:**

Paragraph beginning at page 47, line 4 of the specification has been amended as follows:

Target protein levels can be quantitated in a variety of ways well known in the art, such as immunoprecipitation, Western blot analysis (immunoblotting), Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) or fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS). Antibodies directed to a protein encoded by a target nucleic acid can be identified and obtained from a variety of sources, such as the MSRS catalog of antibodies, (Aerie Corporation, Birmingham, MI or via the world wide web of the internet at [<http://www.ANTIBODIES-PROBES.com/>] ANTIBODIES-PROBES.com/), or can be prepared via conventional antibody generation methods. Methods for preparation of polyclonal, monospecific ("anti-peptide") and monoclonal antisera are taught by, for example, Ausubel *et al.* (*Short Protocols in Molecular Biology*, 2nd Ed., pp. 11-3 to 11-54, Greene Publishing Associates and John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1992).

**In the Claims:**

Claims 1-54 have been cancelled and new claims 55-103 have been added.